

1. (Once Amended) An applicator for surgical clips having upper and lower jaw members with co-operating locking means when in a closed position, said applicator comprising elongate tube means, said elongate tube means including means for attachment to an operating handle, said elongate tube means comprising an inner member and an outer member, said inner and outer members being slidable relative to each other, said inner member and said outer member being shaped to retain at least one surgical clip, said handle being operative to slide said inner member relative to said outer member, said inner and outer members having co-operating surfaces to cause said surgical clip to be forced from an open to a closed position on operation of said handle to slide said inner and outer members relative to each other said sliding motion creating a compressed force, orthogonal to said direction of sliding, between said outer member and said inner member sufficient to compress said upper jaw member and to cause said upper jaw member to lock into engagement with said lower jaw member.
2. (Once Amended) The applicator for surgical clips as claimed in Claim 1 in which said outer member comprises an elongate tube shaped at an end distal from said handle to retain said surgical clip.
3. (Once Amended) The applicator for surgical clips as claimed in Claim 2 in which said shape of said distal end of said outer member comprises an angled sloping platform on which said surgical clip rests, said sloping platform also comprising a raised flange forming stop means for said surgical clips.
4. (Once Amended) The applicator for surgical clips as claimed in Claim 1 in which said inner member comprises an elongate inner member, said elongate inner member comprising means for storing a multiplicity of surgical clips.

Inventor: SADLER et al.

- 3 -

Docket No. 02606

5. (Once Amended) The applicator for surgical clips as claimed in Claim 1 in which said application comprises means for inducing said multiplicity of surgical slips down said elongate inner member.
6. (Once Amended) The applicator for surgical clips as claimed in Claim 5 in which said elongate inner member includes stop means operable to provide opposing mechanical forces to oppose the force on a surgical clip by said outer member to create closure of the clip.
7. (Once Amended) A magazine storage system for an applicator for surgical clips having upper and lower jaw member with co-operating locking means when in a closed position, said magazine storage system comprising a plurality of surgical clips stored in a single column array within an elongate tube, said elongate tube comprising means at a proximal end thereof for attachment to a handle, said elongate tube means comprising an inner member and an outer member, said inner and outer members being slideable relative to each other, said inner and outer members being shaped to retain said plurality of surgical clips and said inner and outer members having at a distal end thereof co-operating surfaces shaped to cause said surgical clip to be forced from an open to a closed position when said inner and outer members are moved relative to each other said sliding motion creating a compressed force, orthogonal to said direction of sliding, between said outer member and said inner member sufficient to compress said upper jaw member and to cause said upper jaw member to lock into engagement with said lower jaw member.
8. (Once Amended) The magazine storage system for an applicator as claimed in claim 7 including spring means positioned within said inner member, said spring means being operative to urge said plurality of surgical clips from said proximal to said distal end of said elongate tube.
9. (Once Amended) The magazine storage system for an applicator as claimed in claim 8 in which said outer member comprises at the distal end a ledge shaped stop means to arrest